

**Minutes of the City of Frederick**  
**Mayor and Board of Aldermen Special Virtual Meeting**

April 8, 2020  
3:00 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

- I. Mayor Michael O'Connor presided. Present were Aldermen Kelly Russell, Derek Shackelford, Roger Wilson and Ben MacShane and Alderwoman Donna Kuzemchak. Also present were City Attorney Sandra Nickols and Legislative Clerk Phyllis Hane.
- II. The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. The Mayor requested a motion to suspend the Rules of Procedure for the Board of Aldermen concerning remote participation in regular meetings for the duration of the State of Emergency. A motion was made by Alderman Russell and seconded by Alderman Shackelford. The motion was approved 5-0.
- IV. Special Meeting
  1. On a motion made by Alderman Wilson and seconded by Alderwoman Kuzemchak the Board approved 5-0 a revised Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Public Meeting Schedule. There were no public comments.
  2. On a motion made by Alderwoman Kuzemchak and seconded by Alderman Russell, the Board approved 5-0 Resolution 20-06 authorizing the Mayor to issue an executive order declaring a continuing state of emergency, to remain in effect until the Mayor issues a new order terminating the state of emergency. There were no public comments.
- V. Elected Official Comments

Alderman MacShane thanked everyone who had worked to coordinate the virtual public meeting, noting he was glad to be back to work in this manner and acting to address the needs of the community. He noted the Aldermen have all been working behind the scenes, often with community partners, to take care of the community to the greatest extent possible during this time. He stated the work done by City staff, residents and community organizations to aid others has been inspiring.

Alderwoman Kuzemchak echoed Alderman MacShane's comments concerning the community. She expressed her appreciation for the work being done by City employees and noted the work being done by non-profits, especially Project Linus, with whom she is partnering to provide masks to the hospital and to other front-line workers.

Alderman Shackelford echoed his colleagues' comments concerning the work of the community and expressed thanks to healthcare workers, EMTs and others who are out working in the community to meet the needs of vulnerable residents. He also thanked his colleagues and the Mayor for the work they continue to do for the City. He encouraged everyone to stay safe and to stay connected, although physically distant.

Alderman Russell expressed her thanks to everyone who is working during this time. She noted this is a time to reflect on what we mean to each other and how we can come together and not take things for granted. She stated this is an opportunity to become an even stronger community. Alderman Russell specifically thanked City staff and urged everyone to take seriously the orders and recommendations concerning social distancing. She stressed that sometimes the most helpful thing one can do is to stay home.

Alderman Wilson echoed his colleagues' comments and expressed appreciation for first responders and public health officials. He also asked everyone to remember those who had lost their lives to the virus at the Heartfields assisted living facility. Alderman Wilson also thanked grocery workers for helping to keep essential items available. He encouraged residents to get outside and walk to counter cabin fever, as well as to reach out to family and friends during this time.

The Mayor noted the effort to put together the virtual meeting demonstrated the can-do attitude of City staff, recognizing the work of City must go on in new and different ways. He noted some practices may be carried forward after the current crisis, making the City a more resilient organization. The Mayor expressed appreciation to each of the Aldermen for their work in the community, stressing the work of City government is a team effort among the elected officials.

VI. There were no general public comments.

There being no further official business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Phyllis Hane  
Legislative Clerk